

178

29 March 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Agency-DoD Wartime Agreements

1. On 22 March 1976 Mr. [REDACTED], presented a briefing to the JMRTC on this subject. Highlighted below for future reference are some of the major points he covered.

a. There are a number of ad hoc agreements in effect with the DoD regarding the command relationships affecting the Agency in time of war. DoD envisions the Agency falling under SECDEF automatically; however, the Agency views this as a negotiable item subject to the desires of the President. The major document regarding wartime relationships between the Agency and DoD is a "Command Relations Agreement (CRA)" which was executed in 1957. This paper was validated in 1967 in a memorandum of understanding. The main thrust of the CRA is the management of the agencies overseas facilities (i.e., "when the Ambassador is replaced by a military commander"). The existing agreements reportedly do not specifically identify a transition of command responsibility. It is clear, however, that the Agency does not automatically transfer to DoD at DEFCON One. The memo of understanding does address the granting of access of the military commanders to the agencies communications systems. DoD wishes to retain this provision as the Agency system is much faster. The military network relies on a computerized control of high-precedence traffic. This automatic control tends to break down when garbles are received.

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